

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 672

By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to recognize Karen Peterson Brukardt for her commitment to preserving the sanctity of human life.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Karen Peterson Brukardt, a longtime advocate for the protection of human life through her work with Tennessee Right to Life, the State's leading pro-life organization; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brukardt's sacrificial leadership has included dedication to Tennessee Right to Life as board member, chapter president, active volunteer, and major donor; and

WHEREAS, serving as the legislative liaison for Tennessee Right to Life from 2001 until 2014, Mrs. Brukardt was responsible for guiding efforts to achieve final passage of Senate Joint Resolution 127, a resolution calling for a public vote to amend the Tennessee Constitution to overturn a 2000 ruling of the Tennessee Supreme Court that wrongly claimed a fundamental right to abortion; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brukardt's diligence, determination, focus, and acumen greatly aided voter approval of Amendment 1 in November 2014; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brukardt's commitment to protecting human life was similarly demonstrated through her work as a registered nurse, having practiced in such diverse communities as Augsburg, Germany; Phoenix, Arizona; and Oshkosh, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Bellin Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Green Bay, Wisconsin, Mrs. Brukardt currently serves on the Bellin College Board of Trustees, where she is also a member of the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brukardt's commitment to restoring legal protection for vulnerable human life is surpassed only by her dedication to family, including her late parents, Lester and Lillian Peterson; her sister, Randi Even; her late husband of forty-six years, Gary Brukardt; her two children and their spouses, Ryan and Daniela Brukardt, and Brianna and Matt Shepard; and most especially her four granddaughters, Liliana, Clara, Isabella, and Adalyn; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brukardt epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Karen Brukardt for her dedication to the State of Tennessee and its people, born and unborn; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Karen Peterson Brukardt for her many contributions to her community and to this State, commend her commitment to preserving the sanctity of human life, and extend our best wishes for her continued success and happiness in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.